

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AF-06 EA-06 NEA-10 SP-02 OIC-02

/071 W

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P 231511Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1938

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

US MISSION GENEVA 679

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, WTO-1, MX, SP

SUBJ: WTO HEADQUARTERS DECISION

REF: A) MADRID 3447; B) STATE 199248

1. FIRST ASSEMBLY OF WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO) DECIDED BY BARE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF 60(US)-29-0 TO LOCATE PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS IN MADRID IN FIFTH BALLOT RUN-OFF BETWEEN MADRID AND MEXICO. RESULTS OF FOURTH BALLOT RUN-OFF, 52-33-3(US) HAD MADE IT CLEAR MEXICO COULD NOT HOPE TO OVERTAKE SUPPORT FOR MADRID, WHICH WAS WITHIN 8 VOTES OF REQUISITE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF 60. CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN FINAL BALLOTS CONFIRMED THERE WOULD BE SWITCH -OVERS TO MADRID, AND US THEN SUPPORTED MADRID MAKING POSSIBLE TWO-THIRDS DECISION. CAREFULLY NEUTRAL POSTURE OF US TOWARD MADRID-MEXICO COMPETITION UP TO FINAL BALLOT KNOWN TO BOTH MEXICAN AND SPANISH DELEGATIONS, AND SPANISH DELEGATION GRATEFUL TO US FOR CASTING WHAT IN EFFECT WAS DECISIVE VOTE ON FINAL BALLOT. VOTING WAS BY SECRET BALLOT.

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2. AFTER DAYS OF PROCEDURAL MANEUVERINGS, DURING WHICH

CANDIDACIES OF TURKEY, GREECE, INDIA AND KENYA WERE WITHDRAWN, RESOLUTION CO-SPONSORED BY FOUR HEADQUARTERS CANDIDATES (INDIA, MEXICO, PHILLIPPINES AND YUGOSLAVIA) PLUS CANADA AND FRANCE ADOPTED AFTERNOON MAY 21 PROVIDING FOR THREE BALLOTS BETWEEN ALL CANDIDATES AFTER WHICH BALLOTING WOULD CONTINUE BETWEEN TWO HIGHEST CANDIDATES ON THIRD BALLOT. LOCKED INTO THIS PROCEDURE, WHICH WAS CHOICE OF MAJORITY OF CANDIDATES, VOTING THEN PROCEEDED IN TIMELY WAY TO CONCLUSION WITH FIRST THREE BALLOTS CONDUCTED MAY 21 AND FINAL TWO MAY 22. US SUPPORTED ZAGREB THROUGH THIRD BALLOT WHILE IT REMAINED VIABLE CANDIDATE.

3. RESULTS OF FIRST BALLOT WERE: MEXICO 23, ZAGREB 21, MADRID 20, GENEVA 15, MANILA 10.

4. RESULTS OF SECOND BALLOT WERE: MADRID 25, MEXICO 23, ZAGREB 22, GENEVA 13 AND MANILLA. 7. PHILLIPPINES THEREUPON ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL OF MANILLA.

5. RESULTS OF THIRD BALLOT WERE: MADRID 30, MEXICO 29, ZAGREB 21, GENEVA 9 THUS ELIMINATING ZAGREB AND GENEVA FROM FURTHER BALLOTING.

6. RESULT OF FOURTH AND FIFTH RUN-OFF BALLOTS BETWEEN MADRID AND MEXICO EXPLANINED PARA 1 ABOVE.
STABLER

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